Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00

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R 301539Z APR 76 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4659 AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5074

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, PINR, NI, NL

SUBJECT: SOJI WILLIAMS, NEW NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHER-LANDS

REF: LAGOS A-24

- 1. EMBASSY HAS NOTHING NEW TO ADD TO LAGOS A-244 OF OCTOBER 26, 1973 REGARDING NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO NETHERLANDS SOJI WILLIAMS.
- 2. WILLIAMS WAS BORN IN 1922 IN LAGOS. HE SPENT 18 YEARS IN UK, SERVED AS BOMBER PILOT IN REF DURING WWII, TOOK DEGREES IN ECONOMICS FROM SOUTHHAMPTON AND MANCHESTER UNIVERSITIES AND STUDIED AT CAMBRIDGE. HE WAS DIPLOMATIC TRAINEE IN BRITISH FOREIGN SERVICE, STATIONED IN BONN, PARIS AND YAOUNDE, WHERE BE BECAME FIRST SECRETARY OF NIGERIAN EMBASSY AT INDEPENDENCE. HE HAS SINCE SERVED AS AMBASSADOR/HIGH COMMISSIONER TO LIBERIA, TANZANIA, POLAND (WITH CONCURRENT ACCREDITATIONS) AND MOST RECENTLY INDIA. HE HAS ALSO BEEN DEPUTY PERMANENT SECRETARY OF MEA.
- 3. WILLIAMS WIFE MARY IS BRITISH. THEY HAVE SEVERAL CHILDREN. CHIEF ROTIMI WILLIAMS, PROMINENT LAGOS ATTORNEY AND CHAIRMAN OF NIGERIAN CONSTITUTION DRAFTING COMMITTEE, IS AMBASSADOR'S BROTHER. WILLIAMS IS PERSONALLY FRIENDLY WITH AMERICANS IN SPITE OF DIFFERENCES OVER POLICY. HIS POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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"IT IS POWER, NOT OPINION, THAT COUNTS."

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

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Subject: SOJI WILLIAMS, NEW NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE NETHER- LANDS TAGS: PDIP, PINR, NI, NL, (WILLIAMS, SOJI)
To: STATE THE HAGUE

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